

Message Text

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ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01 EB-07 OIC-02

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FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6230

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 0920

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: FPOR,UN, AO, SF

SUBJECT: SECURITY COUNCIL: MEETING ON SOUTH AFRICAN "AGGRESSION"
IN ANGOLA

REF: USUN 921

1. AFRICAN GROUP MEETING MARCH 9 REPORTEDLY LEFT UNCLEAR THE DATE
TO BE REQUESTED FOR SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE ON THE QUESTION OF
SOUTH AFRICAN "AGGRESSION" IN ANGOLA. THE BRITISH AND PORTUGUESE
BELIEVE THAT FOLLOWING DEBATE PROBABLY MARCH 16 CONCERNING MOZAMBIQUE
SANCTIONS OFFSET, TIMOR MIGHT BE DISCUSSED WEEK OF MARCH 22. THEN,
SHOULD EXPANSION OF RHODESIAN SANCTIONS (TRADEMARKS,
FRANCHISES, INSURANCE, ETC.), BE PROGRAMMED FOR WEEK
OF MARCH 29, IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO DELAY SUCCESSFULLY QUESTION
OF ANGOLA UNTIL MAY. AFRICANS PRESUMABLY WOULD NOT WISH TO DIS-
CUSS MATTER DURING APRIL, SINCE CHINESE WILL OCCUPY PRESIDENCY,
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AND ARE BOUND TO BE HOSTILE TO CUBAN ROLE IN ANGOLA.

2. SUCH A DELAY WOULD OFFER POSSIBILITY TO SOUTH AFRICANS TO WITHDRAW FROM ANGOLA. WE BELIEVE THAT IT WOULD BE IN OUR INTERESTS FOR THEM TO DO SO AND WE WOULD SUGGEST THAT DEPT CONSIDER BACKING-UP BRITISH TALKS WITH SOUTH AFRICAN AMBASSADOR BOTHA (REFTEL) AND DISCUSS THE MATTER WITH HIM OURSELVES IN WASHINGTON.

3. WHILE IT MAY BE PREMATURE TO ANALYZE SUCH SOUNDINGS, WE HAVE SPOKEN WITH WESTERN MEMBERS OF COUNCIL CONCERNING THEIR POSSIBLE POSITION IN SUCH A DEBATE OVER ANGOLA. BRITISH BELIEVE THAT MATTER WOULD CREATE FISSIONS AMONG WESTERN MEMBERS. ALTHOUGH BRITISH EXPRESS PREPAREDNESS TO DISCUSS CUBAN ROLE AND RESIST UNILATERAL CONDEMNATION OF SOUTH AFRICA, FRENCH AND JAPANESE APPEAR TO US NOT YET READY. IN OUR VIEW, ITALIANS AND SWEDES PROBABLY COULD NOT BE RELIED UPON EITHER. FURTHER, BRITISH FEAR THAT DEBATE COULD INVOLVE CALL FOR CHAPTER VII SANCTIONS AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA.

4. SITUATION IS STILL FLUID. RUMORS CONFLICTING WITH ABOVE HAVE QUESTIONS OF MOZAMBIQUE OFFSET AND EXPANSION OF RHODESIAN SANCTIONS MELDED INTO ONE DEBATE NEXT WEEK. THIS IS BASED UPON TANZANIAN PERM REP SALIM'S SUDDEN DESIRE TO HAVE RHODESIAN SANCTIONS COMMITTEE HOLD ITS FIRST MEETING OF THE YEAR, BEFORE MARCH 13. SIMILARLY, THERE ARE REPORTS THAT TIMOR DEBATE WILL BE HELD TOWARD THE END OF WEEK OF MARCH 15.
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